

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 11669 140954Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
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INFO AMEMBASSY ADAR ES SALAAM

S E C R E T CAIRO 11669

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, EG, TZ, US
SUBJ: SADAT ON TANZANIAN REQUEST FOR ARMS

1. YESTERDAY IN ALEXANDRIA, AFTER HE HAD FINISHED TELLING ME ABOUT BP MUBARKE'S TRIP TO SUDAN AND CHAD (SEPTTEL), SADAT SAID HE WANT PRES CARTER TO KNOW ABOUT TANZANIAN REQUEST HE HAS JUST RECEIVED FOR AMRS ASSISTANCE. IN PREVIOUS FEW DAYS, TANZANIAN VP MWINYI ABBOD JUMBI HAD COME TO SEE HIM AT THE REQUEST OF NYERE. NYERE, AS WE KNEW, HAS A SIMILAR PROBLEM TO THAT OF MALLOUM, BUT HIS IS WITH RHODESIA. TANZANIA IS ONE OF THE CONFRONTATION STATES. NYERE WAS ASKING FOR AMRS IN ORDER "TO TAKE HIS SHARE IN THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT."

2. SADAT RECALLD THAT SOME TWO MONTHS AGO HE HAD ALREADY SENT SOME ARMS NYERE. THERE HAS MAINLY BEEN SMALL ARMS. HE HAD DONE SO BECAUSE, ACCORDING TO NYERE, MOST OF THE WEAPONS OF HIS ARMED FORCES HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS. SADAT ALSO STATED THAT HE HAD AT THE TIME SENT SOME T-34S (THERE ARE PRESUMABLY THE T-34S THAT SHAWKAT TOLD FORMER DATT WERE BEING SENT TO SOMALIA (CAIRO 10106). HE INTENDS TO COMPLY WITH NYERE'S LATEST REQUEST TO THE BEST

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OF HIS ABILITY, BUT NOTED HE HAS VERY LITTLE THAT HE CAN SEND.

3. NYERE'S VIEW, WHICH IS SHARED BY SADAT, THE CONFRONTATION STATES ARE AT A CRITICAL POINT IN WHICH THEY CAN PUT PREWSURE ON THE IAN SMITH REGIME TO COME TO REASON. NYERE FEELS IT IS NECESSARY TO DO SO NOW IN ORDER TO BE IN A GOOD NEGOTIATING POSITION TO DEAL WITH THE SMITH REGIME. NYERE IS

CONCERNED THAT SMITH MAY PUSH SITHOLI TO FORM SOME KINE OF
A PUPPET GOVT. THIS SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED.

4. SADAT ADDED THAT HE HAD BEEN INFORMED NYERE WILL SHORTLY
VISIT PRES CARTER. HE WANTED PRES CARTER TO KNOW SOMETHING
ABOUT NYERE, WHOM HE CALLED "MY FRIEND." HE DESCRIBED NYERE
AS A DEVOUT CHRISTIAN AND A SHREWED AND WISE LEADER. NYERE
IS ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED AFRICAN LEADERS. HE KNEW
THAT NYERE HAS IN THE PAST BEEN ACCUSED OF COOPERATING WITH
THE PRC AND NOT LONG AGO RECEIVED PODGORNYY. PRES CARTER SHOULD
KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT NYERE IS AN INDEPENDENT AFRICAN LEADER
WHO SEEKS THE BEST INTERESTS OF HIS COUNTRY AND MUST ACCEPT
HELP ANYWHERE HE CAN GET IT. HE HOPED THAT PRES CARTER WILL
GIVE NYERE A SYMPATHETIC HEARING.EILTS

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NNN

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